

# The Sun.

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## More Amendments to the Constitution of the State.

Seven proposed amendments to the Constitution of the State and one statute authorizing the issue of bonds will be submitted to the electors on November 7. This community does not enjoy the blessings of a fully developed system of initiative and referendum, and its citizens must content themselves with consideration of the eight constitutional proposals. These may be described briefly as follows:

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.**  
To increase the pay of members of the Legislature from \$1,500 each to \$3,000 for Senators and \$3,000 for Assemblymen, and to change their travel allowance from the lump sum of \$1 for every ten miles for each session to three cents a mile for each week of actual attendance.

To strike out of the judicial article the provision that the Justices of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court in each department shall have power to fix the times and places for holding special terms therein, and to assign the Justices in the department to hold such terms or to make rules therefor.

To provide for the election of two additional County Judges in the county of Kings, for terms of six years.

To provide a method of taking private property for public use by a municipal corporation, under conditions to be prescribed by the Legislature by general law.

To increase the salary of the Governor from \$10,000 a year to \$20,000 a year.

To regulate further the abandonment of canals and the use of funds derived from such abandonment, define the word "canal," and extend the prohibition against disposition of certain canals and properties used in conjunction therewith.

To authorize the Supreme Court, with or without a jury, to ascertain the compensation to be made when private property is taken for public use when such compensation is not made by the State.

**THE DEBT INCURRING STATUTE.**  
To authorize the issue of bonds of the State not to exceed \$10,000,000 to furnish "terminals and facilities" for barge canal traffic.

At present the members of the New York Legislature get higher salaries than those of any other State, except possibly the lawmakers of Pennsylvania, who receive \$1,500 a session, with biennial sessions. There is a theory valiantly maintained by some that corruption is in inverse ratio to a man's income, and that an Assemblyman at \$3,000 a year would be twice as virtuous as one at \$1,500 a year. If this be accepted as a fact, the lawmakers of New York at their present compensation must be twice as honest as those of Massachusetts, who get \$750 a year, and five times as trustworthy as the Connecticut solons, whose pay is \$300 annually. The Governor of Illinois has a salary of \$12,000, and California, New Jersey, Ohio and Pennsylvania, like New York, pay \$10,000 to their Chief Executives. None of the other States pays as much. Heads of departments in the Federal Government have for a few years received salaries of \$12,000 each.

The amendments affecting the taking of private property for municipal public purposes are intended to provide means to end the scandals that have long attended the present methods of appointing and paying commissioners in condemnation proceedings, which have cost the taxpayers throughout the State great sums, but have been particularly flagrant when the pocketbook of this town was to be opened. The amendments relating to the canals of the State and the statute authorizing a barge canal terminal debt are additional steps in the barge canal steal, intended to insure the expenditure on that monumental folly of all the money that can be thrown away on it and its appendages. The judiciary amendments are designed to simplify the operation of the courts, and to provide for the needs of Kings county.

The last constitutional amendment submitted to the people was designed to bring about an intelligent and inexpensive readjustment of the salaries of Judges of the Court of Appeals. It should have been approved, but was beaten.

## The Real Foss.

The Republicans in Massachusetts are trying to convince themselves that the Hon. EUGENE NOBLE FOSS, who used to be one of them and is now an organization Democrat, is losing ground as a candidate to succeed himself. Foss, they say, is another BUTLER, and, like the doughty General, will prove a "yearling." The "real Foss" is held up to public scrutiny as a posturer and pretender and in matters of government an ignoramus and bungler.

The Hon. NORMAN H. WHITE, who wants to be the Republican candidate for Governor, calls the present Governor a "demagogue," an "arch enemy of labor," a "charlatan," a "man of no

party." Speaker WALKER, a rival for the Republican nomination, charges the Governor with employing paid experts to discover corruption in the State departments that does not exist, and Lieutenant-Governor FROTHINGHAM, who invokes precedent to give him the Republican nomination, refuses to approve the experts' bills and on the stump tears the Governor's record to shreds.

Meanwhile Mr. Foss has been an imposing figure at the conference of Governors in New Jersey, and the Boston papers printed his address on the workmen's compensation act in full. Before he left for Springfield he did a characteristic thing when he appointed a Republican member of the Supreme Court, ARTHUR PRENTICE RUO, Chief Justice. The Executive Council may refuse to pay the wicked experts, but it cannot refuse to confirm the judiciary appointment of Mr. RUO, one of the ablest lawyers in Massachusetts, owes his place on the Supreme bench to Governor GUILD, and is admired for his learning and capacity by the whole bar. Appointing good Republicans to office is one of Mr. Foss's specialties. Thus he balances his misdeeds and remedies the wrongs he inflicts upon the Commonwealth. His critics are often right, and when they have him on the hip he names a Republican for office.

It is true that Mr. Foss was not well equipped for the Governorship; it is true that he often insults the intelligence of the good people of Massachusetts and harrows their feelings; but in his rough and ready way he is a very capable politician. He may play the game with cards up his sleeve, but he takes many tricks. Perhaps the Hon. EUGENE NOBLE FOSS is losing ground, but on a thousand stumps in the fall he will show his handsome person and pose as the father of Canadian reciprocity. Unfortunately for the Republican party in Massachusetts its candidates for Governor are not heavyweights.

## Italy in Tripoli.

The announcement contained in a despatch from Rome printed in THE SUN of last Sunday that a peaceful termination of the Franco-German negotiations over Morocco was followed by an Italian expedition to Tripoli of itself opens up no diplomatic question. The reversionary interest of Italy in the Turkish vilayet has long been tacitly recognized by European nations, with the exception of Turkey, and forms a portion of the Franco-Italian understanding in the Mediterranean. For Italy Tripoli is after a fashion a consoling offering, something to soften the disappointment of exactly thirty years ago, when a French army entered the Tunisian beylicate and Italian aspirations in this ancient Roman province came to an abrupt and final end. Of all the ancient Roman colonies in North Africa Egypt, Tunis, Algeria, even Morocco, have passed out of the reach of the new Italy, which, like the German Empire, "arrived" too late. There remains only Tripoli.

Commercially the value of Tripoli with Benghazi and the Saharan hinterland is problematical. There was a time when Tripoli-in-Barbary was the gate of the Sahara, and the caravans to the Niger, to Lake Tchad, to Bilma and Kano were considerable commercial affairs, when 10,000 camels and donkeys and a thousand men were engaged in these operations, and the slaves, ivory and gold dust of Africa were exchanged at Tripoli for the products of Europe. This time has passed forever. Today the French railroads and steamers in West Africa and on the Niger and the British railway extensions in Nigeria have made the Atlantic rather than the Mediterranean the sea gate of the Sudan, while French occupation of the whole centre of the Sahara has put an effective end to the slave trade. In 1910 the entire caravan trade was valued at less than \$270,000 and the contributions of the Sudan to the traffic consisted of skins valued at \$4,000; ostrich feathers worth \$40,000 and ivory valued at \$6,000.

Today the familiar description of Tripoli as "the Mediterranean facade of the Sahara" has become commercially almost exact. Hereafter the economic opportunities in the vilayet seem certain to be limited almost entirely to the products of the few strips of fertile land along the sea coast and the few inland oases, now falling into extreme poverty, such as Ghadames and Ghat, and in Benghazi the oasis of Kufra. Commercially the prize seems hardly worth the initial cost of \$8,000,000 and the employment of 30,000 troops which Italian authorities have estimated as necessary for the task.

Politically the situation is slightly different. Of the five Mediterranean Powers, Spain, France, Great Britain, Italy and Austria, only Austria and Italy lack a North African base for their fleets. While England has acquired Egypt and France has added Tunis to Algeria, and France and Spain are now laying hands upon Morocco, Italy has stood aside, not willingly but compelled by force of circumstances. At the same time the historic enemy, Austria, has pushed its boundaries south by annexing Bosnia and Herzegovina and has its eye fixed upon Salonica. An Italian base in the Cyrenaica is perhaps the only logical answer to such activity, while mere national patriotism may demand of the Italian Government an extension of Italy's boundaries to keep pace with those of its neighbors.

To occupy Tripoli will bring Italy into instant collision with Turkey, for Tripoli is the last Turkish possession in Africa. To-day it contains a considerable Turkish garrison, 10,000 regular troops. But neither the garrison nor the Turkish fleet could defend the vilayet against an Italian expedition. For Italy the serious question would be what effect such an expedition would have in Europe. The danger that Austria would at once move south along the shores of the Adriatic and through Macedonia would be unmistakable.

England in Egypt and France in Tunis, it is certain, would offer no opposition. Germany with its alliance with Italy and its pretence to be the protecting power at Constantinople would doubtless be

embarrassed. Turkey itself might be thrown into that final convulsion so long forecast and at last elicited from Europe if Bulgaria were to join in the general scramble; but whatever the incidental dislocations, the fact remains that the Italians are free to go to Tripoli whenever they choose with the support of the two principal Mediterranean Powers, France and England.

But that the Tripolitan game is worth the candle for Italy may be doubted, both from the commercial and political point of view. As recently as 1908 Signor TRIGNONI, then Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs, said:

"The immovable foundation stone of our foreign policy is and must remain the maintenance of the integrity of the Turkish Empire. And when I use the word 'integrity' I make no reservation, no restriction. This excludes in the most categorical fashion all ideas of the occupation of any fraction whatever of Turkish territory."

Such official utterances have frequently preceded similar annexations. But the restraining influence at this time is plainly the recognition in Rome of what consequences might follow the dismemberment of Turkey, consequences which might be so disadvantageous to Italy in Europe as to outweigh tremendously the benefits flowing from the acquisition of a desert principality valuable only for its two or three ports and the temporary patriotic pleasure an "African adventure" might give the Italian people.

## Inherently Base.

If the official style and obvious vocation of HERBERT N. DAVIDSON of Worcester, Mass., president of the New England Association of Commercial Executives, were not enough to discredit him and his friends, two sentences in the farewell address he made to President TAFT at Beverly on Wednesday would completely reveal his character and the despicable purposes that inspire him and his fellows:

"The material welfare of our great working class, as well as of capital, is so essential to our development as a people that we desire, as business men, conservative action in all matters tending materially to alter the bases upon which our prosperity rests."

"In what you have done already to emphasize the necessity of what Mr. ADAMS was pleased to call the sober second thought, always safe and seldom wrong, you have done well, and you will be justified by history if not by the passion of the hour."

There is not a "Progressive" in the land who will not recognize the approval of conservative action as a betrayal of the sacred cause of Guff, nor a Chautauqua statesman to whom these self-described "business men" do not in their shameless use of this phrase condemn themselves as monsters of iniquity. And where, outside the ranks of the infamous reactionaries, can be found a creature so lost to all sense of virtue as to concede that there is any necessity or even desirability of thought, first or second, sober or impassioned, among a people who have Battle Bob to inspire them in political wisdom and social intelligence?

As to the justification of Mr. TAFT by history, Battle Bob and his vociferous troop are not concerned with such matters. The President is entirely welcome to all the applause posterity may bestow on the present generation if they can get the jobs to-day.

## Ramadan Over.

The great Moslem fast of Ramadan is ended and the feast of Bairam has begun. The moon, according to the best information, behaved properly throughout the entire Mohammedan world, neither lengthening the fast nor shortening the feast; besides, it seems to have justified the course of those Grand Cadi who put their faith in such a modern invention as the telegraph.

Until the new moon appears and its appearance is certified to by trustworthy witnesses the fast cannot begin. A few years ago the Egyptian Moslems were in a state bordering on hysteria when the sky remained dark, and they sent an urgent telegram for advice to Constantinople. They were somewhat relieved to find that they were a day out on their calculation.

Last year the Grand Cadi declined to declare the fast because no one had seen the moon. Its rising, however, had been advised by telegrams; but the Grand Cadi refused to trust them, because for aught he knew they were the machinations of the evil one. The Government and the Regent intervened and at last succeeded in convincing him that the telegram could be depended upon. This year the minute that the moon was seen by trustworthy witnesses agreed exactly with the time of which the Grand Cadi had been advised in advance, and he hesitatingly signed a "hodge" that the citadel guns might announce the beginning of the great fast.

He is now inclined to believe that if the sky is overcast a Cadi may trust the telegraph and still be a good Muslim. The National Conservation Congress, which is to devote most of its time at the meeting in Kansas City this year to the welfare and future of agriculture, might find some interesting solutions of farm problems in a neighboring State. Agriculture in Kansas is generally believed to be confined to the cultivation of great tracts of corn and wheat; but that the question of rotation and variety of crop is becoming important is shown by some recent reports.

In Franklin county, where prairie grass and sunflower a few years ago held sway, there was produced this season \$90,000 worth of blue grass seed, most of which was shipped to England. Alfalfa is proving more than a forage crop; the seed is being shipped out of the State by car loads, each car load worth about \$7,000. One farmer near Hutchinson received \$1,000 for a wagon load; another, near Eldorado, realized \$3,000 from the seed grown on ninety acres. Broom corn is growing in parts of the State where once no one thought the soil was adapted to it. A far Western homesteader's profit on the crop this year was sufficient to buy an adjoining quarter.

A Morton county farmer raises water melons for the seed. His eighty acres yielded him \$1,000. On land in the Southwest where it was once said trees would not grow are now forests of catalpa trees furnishing ties for Western railroads. Other tracts have been planted with

fruit trees, and the yield of apples is large. The growers do not attempt to compete with Missouri or Oregon orchardists; they have made their own market. Texas takes the bulk of their apples. Secretary CORBIN and the agricultural colleges may have helped, but the farmers themselves first made most of these ventures.

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We hate to interfere with the grammatical affairs of the esteemed Outlook, but what was Dr. MARIE's blue pen doing when it missed this singular and plural article in the opening sentence of a wonderful article by the most celebrated of Contributing Editors?

The attempt on the life of M. STOLYPIN, so far as the despatches show now, is simply another effort to temper anarchy by assassination. There seems to be no reason why the Jews should object particularly to the Prime Minister; nihilists or other revolutionary enthusiasts would hardly have aimed at him when the Czar, a more shining mark, was as easy to reach, and if the reactionaries sought to get rid of him the fact that he would come out in the official report of the examination of the assassin.

Russians generally are convinced that M. STOLYPIN is doing his best, under very great difficulties, to make constitutionality a reality in Russia; it will be a misfortune for the reform parties if his wounds prove fatal.

The Seine is running dry.—Foreign despatch. Paris may yet rival Biskra as a "watering place."

## STOP THE WASTE!

An Everyday, Non-Political Remedy for the High Cost of Living.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: The Berlin correspondent of the Economist of London is reported as saying "It grows more and more certain that the high cost of living during the next twelve months is going to prove a serious general economic factor." The position of the laboring classes has seldom been so critical as now. The foregoing remarks applying to worldwide conditions, including free trade and protection countries, clearly indicate that neither the United States nor the cause of the existing world high price level.

It is both selfish and cruel for agitators to seize the people's distress as a means of reaching personal power; selfish because they cannot stand on their own merits, but rely on alluring but false hopes. If in order to win the support of the people a lower price level is promised, how are the agitators going to deliver the goods?

An untimely and unscientific handling of the political and economic policies of the nation would upset industry, throwing hundreds of thousands out of employment. This would unquestionably check the rise of prices, because the people would be without funds to make purchases. Where is the statesman who would advocate such a course? Under existing conditions if the demand is normal how are prices going to be reduced?

The very dry and hot weather in Europe and the United States during July and August and the reported shortage in crops will surely affect prices during the coming fall and winter months. How can any law or political platform at the result?

At this time of crisis the people consider in an advocacy of economy all along the line. Stop the waste! Each person can do something for the common good by being just a little bit more careful. There are thousands who are now practicing the most frugal economy and there are thousands who are wasteful. It is the excess of the latter class that makes it so much more difficult for the former to make both ends meet, and this applies especially to food products, for the waste of food and meat and other necessities amounts to a considerable loss from being on the market for sale. The waste in the city of New York alone would probably foot up to millions of pounds a year.

The passionate words of frenzy, reckless and unscientific agitators make matters worse, whereas the operation of a wise and general economy would be helpful to all.

It is the duty of true leaders to tell the truth and teach the present duty of strict personal and governmental economy.

CHARLES S. SMICK.  
PLAINFIELD, N. J., September 13.

## SIR JOSEPH WARD'S FUTURE.

Is His Baronetcy Preliminary to Appointment as High Commissioner?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: I doubtless, as Morris Copeland told a SUN reporter, Sir Joseph Ward has dropped in the estimation of my countrymen in recent years and has shown the lack of foresight that was characteristic of his career. Sir Joseph Ward has always been a politician since he was a young man and has made his reputation and living out of politics, but he has not been a very successful one. His financial deals and his connection with the Ward association brought him considerable discredit. His acceptance of the baronetcy, which is not a peerage, is a mistake in his career. He has been a member of the House of Commons since 1906, and his appointment as High Commissioner to Great Britain and Ireland, which is not a peerage, is a mistake in his career. He has been a member of the House of Commons since 1906, and his appointment as High Commissioner to Great Britain and Ireland, which is not a peerage, is a mistake in his career.

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## FOR POLITICAL SANITY.

The Suggestion That Business Men Organize for National Safety.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: I have read with genuine interest and approval the letter by "Anti-Progressive" appearing in THE SUN of this morning. A movement such as the one referred to should not be difficult of organization, and would unquestionably have a great power for good under the present political conditions in this country. At this moment its usefulness in this city and State could not well be denied.

There has been in my mind for some time the idea that some organized opposition should be made to the socialist tendencies of large elements in both of the two great political parties, and it now seems to me that "Anti-Progressive" has offered a reasonable solution of our troubles. He and his views should have practical encouragement.

Let me again draw to your attention a very excellent review of conditions contained in a letter dated at Philadelphia, July 3, 1911, purporting to have been written by "An Old Time Democrat" and published in THE SUN of July 4. This sturdy citizen has given expression to the sentiments of many a Democrat.

WILLIAM B. ELLISON.  
NEW YORK, September 14.

## MR. VARDAMAN'S MISSION.

Special Envoy From White People of Mississippi to Those of the North.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: During the recent primary election the issue was made a decision by the voters of Mississippi as to whether or not they approved of continued agitation for the repeal or modification of the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to the Constitution of the United States. This repeal or modification it was understood, was to be made in order legally to deprive the negro of the right to vote guaranteed to him under these amendments.

On the one side it was argued that while because of the teeming negro population in this section it was highly desirable that such a change should be made, the time had not yet arrived when the people of the North would give consideration to any appeals on the part of the South along this line, and that any agitation would be of no avail and would only tend to revive forgotten animosities. John Sharp Williams, United States Senator, and many other conservative Mississippians took this view. On the other hand, Ex-Governor James R. Vardaman, who was elected to the position of special envoy from the white people of Mississippi to those of the North, took the opposite view. "Be sure you are right, then go ahead."

The first question to be decided was whether it was right and of good public policy that man for man the negro should be equal with the white man in the government. This once decided in the negative, a foregone conclusion, then all honorable means should be rigorously used toward securing white supremacy under the Constitution of the United States. It was held that if the people of the State should decide to repeal the amendments to the Constitution intended to give the negro an equal vote in government, the white people of the State should be the first to do so. The negroes, as it was said, were the black race preponderates in numbers, as it does, that the government of the State should be in the hands of the white people. It is the right as well as the duty of the white people to plead their cause before the people of the North, and to urge upon them the amendments to the Constitution intended to give the negro an equal vote in government.

On this clear cut issue Senator Percy, the candidate supported by John Sharp Williams, was defeated by Mr. Vardaman, a rank outsider, who ran mainly on the issue of the repeal of the amendments. Mr. Vardaman, who is a native of Mississippi, actually received more votes than Percy.

With this indisputable evidence of the temper of the people of Mississippi, Mr. Vardaman announced that he would submit his resignation as Senator and thus permit the people of Mississippi to elect a representative to the United States Senate. As this Legislature, which meets in January, is overwhelmingly in sympathy with the white people, Mr. Vardaman will be elected to fill Percy's unexpired term and soon appear in Washington as the representative of the white people of Mississippi.

Now, whatever may be the individual opinion of the Northern voter as to negro suffrage, it is a fact that the white people of Mississippi are virtually a special envoy from the individual voters of a sister State to the people of the United States. His record proves just the contrary. He has been a member of the United States Senate since 1906, and his appointment as High Commissioner to Great Britain and Ireland, which is not a peerage, is a mistake in his career. He has been a member of the House of Commons since 1906, and his appointment as High Commissioner to Great Britain and Ireland, which is not a peerage, is a mistake in his career.

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## CENSUS OF BRITISH PRODUCTION.

The last British book one giving the results of the first British census of production, which was taken in 1908, has just been presented to Parliament. With the others in the series it seems to establish a valuable basis for future study of fluctuations in British trade and industry. The figures were collected under the census of production act, 1908, an agreed measure, that no party, one which was favored by all political parties. Its object was to secure statistics of home industries. The present volume covers the contracting trades, quarries and public utility service, and it shows a gross output for the United Kingdom of £146,815,000. The value of the materials used is given as £23,230,000, and the "net output," or addition to the wealth of the country, £236,815,000.

In the work done 780,747 persons found employment. Among the particular items making the total £146,815,000 is quoted the result of building trade operations, proper on private account; new gas undertakings, whether by private companies or public authorities, amounted to £31,500,000, water works to £10,000,000, and electrical enterprises to £1,000,000. The rest of the work was done for canal, dock, harbor and naval authorities and the Board of Public Works.

The earlier reports covered returns relating to mines and quarries, the metal trades, shipbuilding, engineering, woodworking, chemical and allied trades, brick, pottery, cement, glassmaking, paper and printing, textile, clothing, leather, food, drink and tobacco industries. Including the figures now made public, about £146,815,000, the value of the materials used in the following table, which shows in million pounds sterling gross and net output and cost of material and the average number of persons employed:

England and Wales.	Gross.	Material.	Net.	Persons.
England and Wales.	146,815	23,230	123,585	780,747
Scotland.	208	116	87	88,000
Ireland.	65	43	22	26,000
United Kingdom.	1,717	1,019	712	6,906,000

The total number of persons employed in the work covered by the census, it will be seen, approached closely to 7,000,000, and the production represented a net increase of £146,815,000 over the value of the materials used. This census is to be repeated at regular ten year intervals, and from this time forward it will afford an accurate test as to the growth or decay of any one of British industry, or of the country as a whole, which it is a valuable and important contribution to the knowledge of the nation.

In a final volume the aggregate figures in all trades, carefully revised and corrected, will be given in summarized form.

## THE CANADIAN BOUNDARY.

Further Exposition of the Roosevelt Phrase "Every Precaution."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: The statement of J. D. Peterson that Lord Alverstone was the British member of the Boundary Commission is doubtless correct. Lord Herschell acted upon the earlier Canadian commission which met in Washington. The individual is not of any material importance, nor that there were three. It is a matter of fact that the vote would still have been a decision not in favor of the United States, and the correspondent says "every precaution" was taken by the President and Senate against a decision not in favor of the United States. The decision was in favor of the United States, and the correspondent says "every precaution" was taken by the President and Senate against a decision not in favor of the United States.

There is no logical mind so vast difference between the two commissions. The one treaty the President and Senate delegated to a commission the decision as to whether or not the boundary should be the United States or the Canadian border. The other treaty the President and Senate delegated to a commission the decision as to whether or not the boundary should be the United States or the Canadian border.

It may be true that in the former incident a decision was taken against a decision not in our favor, in favor of the merits of the case, and that the President and Senate were not in a position to proceed with the work of the commission, make and submit a report, and impartially perform the duties imposed upon him by the President. But the President's attitude therefore not that every precaution must be taken to prevent a decision not in our favor, but that every precaution must be taken to secure a decision in our favor.

WASHINGTON, D. C., September 14.

## Sanity School Among Wisconsin Lunatics.

The occupants of the Milwaukee County Asylum for the Insane may be maniacs, but there is ingenuity in the scheme by which these insane inmates are being taught to read and write.

One another to evade the investigations of the alienists who examine them. This developed when Joseph Hecht failed to make good in an effort to get his name on the list of the insane. He had been coached for three months by other patients, who had carefully trained him to answer in sane fashion the questions of the alienists. When the medical men, however, and scientific physical tests he was sufficiently clever to